IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: SATO, et al.

Filed: January 30, 2004

For: DISK ARRAY DEVICE HAVING SPARE DISK DRIVE AND DATA

SPARING METHOD

CLAIM FOR PRIORITY

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 January 30, 2004

Sir:

Under the provisions of 35 USC §119 AND 37 CFR § 1.55, Applicants hereby claim the right of priority based on Patent Application No. 2003-354557 filed in <u>Japan</u> on October 15, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

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